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No. 153

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore [Mr. SUNUNU].

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
November 5, 1997.

I hereby designate the Honorable JOHN E. SUNUNU to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Rev. James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

We pray, gracious God that whatever our obligations or whatever our time in life, we will experience purposeful challenges that engage the spirit and keep our hearts and minds filled with enthusiasm. Help us to be aware that there are always ways that we can contribute to the benefit of people about us or to help lift the burdens of others with their daily concerns. May Your Spirit, O God, so touch our spirits that our minds are alert, our hearts are compassionate, and our hands eager to do the good works that honor You and serve people whatever their need. In Your name we pray. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. ROGAN. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Chair's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. ROGAN. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 5 of rule I, further proceedings on this question are postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. KUCINICH] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. KUCINICH led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundegran, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed without amendment bills of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 79. An act to provide for the conveyance of certain land in the Six Rivers National Forest in the State of California for the benefit of the Hoopa Valley Tribe;

H.R. 708. An act to require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study concerning grazing use and open space within and adjacent to Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming, and to extend temporarily certain grazing privileges; and

H.R. 2464. An act to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to exempt internationally adopted children 10 years of age or younger from the immunization requirement in section 212(a)(1)(A)(ii) of such Act.

The message also announced that the Senate had passed bills of the following titles, in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 813. An act to amend chapter 91 of title 18, United States Code, to provide criminal penalties for theft and willful vandalism at national cemeteries;

S. 940. An act to provide for a study of the establishment of Midway Atoll as a national memorial to the Battle of Midway, and for other purposes;

S. 1231. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 1998 and 1999 for the United States Fire Administration, and for other purposes; and

S. 1324. An act to deauthorize a portion of the project for navigation, Biloxi Harbor, Mississippi.

The message also announced, that pursuant to section 4355(a) of title 10, United States Code, the Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, appoints the following Senator to the Board of Visitors of the United States Military Academy:

The Senator from New Jersey [Mr. LAUTENBERG] from the Committee on Appropriations, vice the Senator from Wisconsin [Mr. KOHL].

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain 15 one-minutes on each side.

CUTTING TAXES IS NOT SELFISH

(Mr. NEUMANN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. NEUMANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to look at the results of last night's elections and see that the people have spoken and they do not believe it is selfish for the working families of this great Nation to want to keep more of their own money in their own home and spend it on their families, rather than sending it to whatever

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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the taxing organization might be, whether it be Washington or their local tax burden.

We understand that the President said that he believes it is selfish, selfish, for people to support tax cuts. Mr. President, it is not selfish for our hard-working families that are going to receive the \$400 per child tax credit to want to keep that money in their home to use on their families rather than send it to Washington, DC.

It is not selfish for a hard-working family that is maybe now working three jobs to want to keep more of their own hard-earned money in their family so they only need to work two jobs instead of three to make ends meet, so they can keep more money there and spend more time with their families because they are now only working two jobs instead of three. That is not selfish. That is family values of this great Nation that we live in. That is the opportunity for parents to spend more time with their children.

DEFEAT OF "ISSUE 2" A LESSON FOR ALL

(Mr. KUCINICH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, yesterday one of the most important election issues in America was decided in the State of Ohio in favor of working families. Ohio "Issue 2" sought to reduce and eliminate many benefits accorded injured workers under the workers compensation system. When people are injured on the job, they have a right to fair compensation, but Issue 2 would have taken away that right.

A powerful coalition led by labor and other representatives of injured workers rose up to protect the moral, the economic, and the spiritual rights of people to be able to be fairly compensated when they are injured on the job.

The defeat of Issue 2 is a lesson for those who would seek to use the legislative process to deprive workers of their rights. It is also a lesson for those who would defy power which seems omnipotent, who believe that they could overcome the odds, assert their rights and triumph on behalf of working men and women.

COMMON SENSE NEEDED AT THE IRS

(Mr. TIAHRT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, soon it will be cookies and tea at the IRS. They are holding an open house down at the IRS. It is their kinder and gentler version of the most feared bureaucracy in America.

After years of abusing Americans on repeated audits, after confiscating personal property and closing family businesses, after harassing local churches

for returning contributions made freely by their parishoners, the IRS says, trust us. We did not do anything illegal. If we did, we will not do it again, but we do need to make some changes. It kind of sounds like campaign reform.

Mr. Speaker, there are a lot of good people working at the IRS put in very bad positions by their management. The best thing to do would be to eliminate the Tax Code and create a fairer and flatter tax. But in the meantime we should all vote for H.R. 2676, the IRS Restructuring and Reform Act, and get some common sense back at the IRS.

BRING SOME COMMON SENSE TO FOREIGN RELATIONS

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, see if this makes sense. America gives billions of foreign aid to Russia; Russia then takes American cash and builds new weapons; Russia then offers to sell the old weapons to Iran. America trying to keep nuclear technology from Iran, and they buy the old weapons from Russia. Russia then asks America for more foreign aid. America trying to keep the Marx brothers out of Russia, and I do not mean Groucho, give Russia more foreign aid.

After all this, the State Department labels the National Council Resistance, the opposition party in Iran, fighting for democracy, trying to throw those bums out. They label them a terrorist group.

Unbelievable. How dumb can Uncle Sam be? Let us tell it like it is. Those Russian nuclear scientists are not hanging around Iran to watch belly dancers. What is next? Will the Pentagon lease Tehran?

Beam me up, Mr. Speaker. With a foreign policy like this, I do not know how we still have our sovereignty.

EARLY DETECTION SAVES LIVES

(Mr. SNOWBARGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SNOWBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I have come to the floor to focus our Nation's attention on a disease that afflicts one in every 8 women and affects everyone's lives. Each year, more than 46,000 women lose their lives in a fight against breast cancer and it is this fact I find most distressing, because in many cases, early detection could have prevented the losses of life.

According to the American Cancer Society, nearly 9 out of every 10 women who are diagnosed with breast cancer survive. A major component in achieving this success rate is educating women to regularly conduct breast self-examinations. Again, early detection of breast cancer can prevent the loss of life.

In Kansas City, women are benefiting from the works of Florein Leiberman,

who founded the Breast Exam Self Testing Program, known as the BEST Program. BEST is sponsored by Menorah Medical Center and is supported by 35 physicians who volunteer their time and expertise to provide a free clinic visit to help educate women on proper breast self-examination techniques.

Since 1985, more than 3,500 women have benefited from this program. In addition, BEST is working with local junior and senior high schools to help educate young women on ways to work on this disease.

BRING H.R. 856, SELF DETERMINATION FOR PUERTO RICO, TO THE FLOOR

(Mr. ROMERO-BARCELÓ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROMERO-BARCELÓ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to the occasion in support of H.R. 856, a bill to provide a process leading to the full self-determination for Puerto Rico. This bill seeks to put an end to the disenfranchisement of 3.8 million U.S. citizens in Puerto Rico. This bill is essential to strengthening our Democratic process.

The U.S. citizens of Puerto Rico have been partners of the United States since 1898, almost one century, having fought hand-in-hand to defend American principles and Democratic ideals worldwide. After having faithfully fought side-by-side with our fellow citizens in every armed conflict since 1917, Puerto Ricans are denied the right to exercise self-determination and their right to vote. As the United States preaches to the world on human rights and democracy, it has forgotten 3.8 million of its own citizens.

How can we ask Castro to hold a plebiscite and open elections in Cuba when this Nation, an example and inspiration of democracy, keeps 3.8 million of its own citizens disenfranchised? Please support H.R. 856. It is our responsibility. We must bring H.R. 856 to the floor soon.

ELECTION RESULTS SAY IT ALL

(Mr. PAPPAS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, we frequently hear that liberal and conservative are nothing but labels, but Mr. Speaker, it is a question of vision contrasting between the liberal vision and the conservative vision for America.

Just a few days ago while campaigning in Alexandria, VA, President Clinton called the voters who support tax relief selfish. Well, Mr. Speaker, yesterday all throughout this country, in particular I would like to point out in the 13th district of New York, a district where VITO FOSSELLA was elected to replace Susan Molinari in the House of Representatives, a district that the Democrats said would be a bellwether test for what is to happen in 1998 in the